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EXTERNAL - POLITICAL

1. Ideological Questions. The Communique of the Bucharest meeting of Bloc Communist Parties, by glossing over points on which Peiping and Moscow have expressed sharp differences, indicates that the Sino-Soviet split on the questions of "peaceful coexistence" and "the inevitability of war" continues. The unusual brevity of the communique, the vague reference to the correctness of the 1957 Declaration and Manifesto, the complete silence on the decisive question of how to "struggle for peace" is to be pursued suggests that the document represents the best that could be obtained to give the impression of Bloc unity of views.

Since the date of the Communique Khrushchev has made two public speeches in which he reiterated the Soviet positions on the key ideological question of the "inevitability of war." In one speech he gave unusual stress to the need for Bloc unity by making it one of the conditions for the avoidance of war. Soviet press articles continue to condemn "dogmatism" and "left sectarianism," the errors presumably being made by the Chicoms.

2. Disarmament Conference Walk-Out. Following the withdrawal of the five Soviet Bloc representatives from the 10-power disarmament talks, Soviet press coverage has made an unconvincing attempt to make it appear that the Western powers were really responsible for the suspension of the negotiations, because they were using them solely to attempt to legalize espionage in the form of international controls.

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3. A Soviet note [redacted] was handed Ambassador Thompson and to the British and French Ambassadors on June 30. The note [redacted]

4. Declaration on US-Japanese Security Treaty. On June 30 Pravda published a Declaration of the Soviet Government protesting the Japanese ratification of the Security Treaty. The Declaration was not previously made available to the Japanese Embassy and it appears to be a studied insult to the Japanese Government, underlining

Soviet irritation that the treaty was put through and removing the Soviets a further degree away from communication with the Japanese Government. The Declaration appears to have been timed to influence current negotiations in Japan to pick a successor to Prime Minister Kishi.

5. Soviet interest in the new African states was much in evidence during the week. Soviet statements recognizing three new states (Malagasy Republic, Congo, and Somali) an offering to establish diplomatic relations with them were published in quick succession. (Soviet recognition of Mali was published the week previously.) Soviet delegations departed for the independence celebrations in Congo and Somali and the proclamation of a republic in Ghana. A Soviet ambassador was appointed to Togo. There was considerable accompanying press comment stressing Africa's march toward independence, the burden of the colonial era, and allegedly continuing efforts of the "imperialists" to keep African territories in economic dependence even after the grant of political independence. The press had little to say about specific African political movements or leaders, although Izvestiya (June 27) remarked rather tartly that Premier Tsiranana of the Malagasy Republic had been forced by pressure of the broad popular masses to demand greater freedom from France.

6. High-level visits to and from the Soviet Union continued at a brisk rate during the week.

President Prasad of India completed his Soviet trip July 1 amid a sustained Soviet effort to stress ties of friendship between the two countries. Indian Finance Minister Desai arrived in the USSR June 27 and met with Khrushchev and Kosygin June 29. (The Indian Minister of Resources, Malaviya, who left the USSR June 23 after a two-week stay, also met with a number of top Soviet leaders--Mikoyan, Kozlov, Kosygin, and Furtseva.)

First Minister Djuanda of Indonesia arrived in Tashkent June 28 and in Moscow June 30.

Mikoyan returned to Moscow from Norway June 29, immediately before Khrushchev's departure (June 30) for Austria.

Representatives of three Western European Communist parties were also in the USSR. Khrushchev met with Togliatti June 28, and Danish and French delegations were also reported as being in Moscow, the former under party chairman Espersen, the latter under politburo member Waldeck-Rochet. While these visits were reported as tours or vacations, it was conceivable that they were also the occasion for review of ideological questions and intra-bloc relations such as were discussed at the time of the Rumanian party congress.

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over this period, in June this happened 16 times, of which 14 involved 10 or more of the Presidium. The probably intentional impression of collective solidarity and leadership stability has been strengthened by press and television photography techniques highlighting displays of group conviviality and cheerfulness. The "message" of stability and united support of Khrushchev's recent actions and policies (internal and external) is essentially the same for foreign and domestic audiences. However, it seems likely that the obverse "message" of collective responsibility for unpopular actions is directed at the internal audience with the intention of reducing Khrushchev's share of the onus for the cancellation of President Eisenhower's visit and other actions evidencing a worsening of US-Soviet relations to the considerable disappointment and concern of a large portion of the Soviet public.

10. Belyayev Removed from Stavropol Position: A plenum of the Stavropol Kray party committee on June 25 removed N. I. BELYAYEV from his position as Kray first secretary only seven weeks after his being dropped from the CPSU Central Committee Presidium. There was no mention of "other work" for Belyayev in the short June 27 central press item on the Stavropol plenum and it may be presumed that he, like his former associate on the Presidium A. I. KIRICHENKO, who was relieved of the first secretaryship in Rostov Oblast June 15 (WEEKA No. 25 of June 17, 1960), has proceeded further down the demotion ladder. (Both technically remain members of the Central Committee, which may take further action against them at the CC plenum scheduled for July 13.)

It appears that many of the shortcomings in Kazakhstan for which Belyayev was criticized and dismissed as Kazakh first secretary five months ago have continued or even become worse (see below), and his latest demotion may reflect a currently more serious appraisal of the effects of his earlier "failure" there coupled with an attempt to make him the scapegoat for the continuation of problems which present Kazakh party and government leaders have been unable to correct. However, neither this nor the possibility of subsequent mismanagement in Stavropol Kray seem as likely explanations as the desire of the Khrushchev central leadership to complete outstanding disciplinary actions prior to the pending Central Committee plenum. However, that local problems may have played some part in the latest demotions of both Belyayev and Kirichenko is possible. The former's replacement as Stavropol Kray first secretary, F. D. KULAKOV, has been the RSFSR Minister for Grain Products, and a plenum of the Rostov Oblast Party committee subsequent to Kirichenko's ousting (Soviet Russia of June 30) apparently was devoted to discussing dangerous lags in preparations for harvesting what was said to be an unusually good grain crop despite a "difficult spring".

11. Kazakh Party Plenum: Old problems continue to plague Kazakhstan, according to information released at a plenum of the Kazakh Central Committee held June 21-22. Although it is still too early to predict what the harvest picture will look like this year, speakers at the plenum gave numerous indications that the same difficulties are being encountered this year as last. The shortage of agricultural technicians continues and the repair of farm machinery lags far behind schedule. One spokesman stated that in South-Kazakhstan, Alma-Ata and Dzhambul oblasts more than half the combines were not in shape to do work in the fields. Due to an inadequate fodder base and lack of shelter, animal losses during the winter, described as "severe," were high. One speaker urged greater attention to horse-raising, saying that horse meat constituted a "considerable place" in the "meat balance" of the republic.

Both industrial and housing construction are well behind plan. In a speech on June 22, Kazakh Party First Secretary D. A. Kunayev described the situation in capital construction as "alarming" and termed the plan for putting new enterprises into production as in a "particularly grave situation." Builders in the republic fell 323,000 square meters short of the plan for housing construction. There was said to be an acute shortage of cement and other building materials in the "new lands." Housing construction has apparently been put on a crash basis in some of the most critical areas, with the result that in some cases methods and materials have been used. Kazakhstan Pravda of June 18 noted that recently a four-story apartment house in Semipalatinsk and a five-story apartment in Temir-Tau had collapsed before being occupied.

Comment: (OFFICIAL USE ONLY) Thus far, the information is too meagre to warrant the prediction that major planned goals will not be achieved this year in Kazakhstan. The present leaders of the republic, and notably D.A.Kunayev and N.N.Rodionov, cannot be unmindful of the penalty for failure. The recent political demise of N.I. Belyayev has drawn a sufficiently clear picture for any who may have been in doubt.

12. Biographic Notes

G. L. SMIRNOV, a former deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Section of Agriculture for the RSFSR and a deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers since January (announced in Soviet Russia of January 21, 1960), has replaced S.V. KALCHENKO As RSFSR Minister of Agriculture. The Embassy has not seen an announcement of this action - Smirnov was identified as in his new position in Pravda of June 16 which carried a speech which he had made at the All Union Conference of Agricultural Specialists, then meeting in Moscow. With RSFSR Minister of Grain Products F.D. KULAKOV's transfer to party post responsibilities in Stavropol Oblast (see Paragraph 3 above), this makes two possibly related RSFSR ministerial

shifts involving agricultural responsibilities. The Embassy thus far has no information concerning a new assignment for Kalchenko or as to Kulakov's replacement.

A.N. SHELEPIN, the Chairman of the State Committee on State Security (KGB), has been appearing with sufficient frequency to indicate that the rumors which circulated several months ago concerning supposed "difficulties" which he was having in retaining his position were either unfounded or have been overcome. In a departure from the more usual practice of listing his name with other "chairmen of state committees" in press reports of airport welcoming groups (arrivals of Indian President Prasad June 20 and the Czech party-government delegation last May 2), the July 1 Pravda report of the welcome given Indonesian First Minister Djuanda identified Shelepin by his KGB title.

Internal

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13. Formation of RSFSR Artists' Union

A first and constituent congress of artists of the RSFSR met in Moscow June 20-24 to establish a Union of Artists of the RSFSR. Academician V.A. SEROV was elected chairman of the board. In setting up their organization, the artists told the Party Central Committee that they felt it their "honorable duty to be in the very thick of the great working life of the country." Comment: Since an "organization committee" of this Union has existed for some time, the congress has in a sense simply formalized the institution of the Union.

MILITARY - JOINT ARMY-NAVY-AIR FORCE

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14. Demobilization.

A. Press representatives witnessed the demobilization of about 1200 soldiers at OSIPOVICHI on 24 June. Soviet officer stated that the entire 5th Red Banner Korsun Heavy Tank Division was being demobilized.

B. Soviet Press stated that BYELORUSSIAN MILITARY DISTRICT soldiers collected scrap metal for 110 tractors built at the Minsk Tractor Works. On 27 June the now demobilized soldiers with their tractors just off the production line were sent to the virgin lands in KAZAKHSTAN.

For the Ambassador:

Robert I. Owen

Robert I. Owen
First Secretary of Embassy

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